

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously presented) A filter apparatus comprising a channel capable of guiding a portion of an internal fluid stream within an enclosure through a recirculating filter and a filter chamber disposed in the internal fluid stream portion immediately downstream of the recirculating filter, the filter chamber capable of filtering an external fluid stream through a diffusion path.
2. (Previously presented) The filter apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a filter disposed outside the channel capable of filtering the internal fluid stream portion not entering the channel.
3. (Previously presented) The filter apparatus of claim 2 wherein the filter disposed outside the channel is supported by the filter chamber.
4. (Previously presented) The filter apparatus of claim 3 wherein the filter disposed outside the channel defines a shroud in close mating relationship with a moving member that creates the internal fluid stream.
5. (Previously presented) The filter apparatus of claim 1 wherein the channel supports a carpet filter.

6. (Previously presented) The filter apparatus of claim 1 wherein the channel is sized to fluidly communicate with a first area of an upstream side of the recirculating filter, and the filter apparatus is sized to fluidly communicate with a second area of a downstream side of the recirculating filter, wherein the second area is substantially greater than the first area to impart a relatively reduced pressure region in the fluid stream portion downstream of the recirculating filter.

7. (Previously presented) The filter apparatus of claim 6 wherein the diffusion path comprises a breather aperture on an external side of the enclosure and a diffusion aperture on an internal side of the enclosure, wherein the diffusion aperture is disposed in the relatively reduced pressure region.

8. (Previously presented) The filter apparatus of claim 7 comprising a filter capable of intercepting fluid flowing through the diffusion path.

9. (Previously presented) The filter apparatus of claim 7 wherein the filter chamber defines a permeable enclosure around the diffusion aperture.

10. (Previously presented) The filter apparatus of claim 9 wherein the enclosure supports a filter capable of intercepting the fluid flowing through the diffusion path.

11. (Previously presented) The filter apparatus of claim 9 wherein the enclosure contains a filter capable of intercepting the fluid flowing through the diffusion path.

12. (Previously presented) The filter apparatus of claim 7 wherein the filter chamber adsorbs contaminants flowing into the enclosure via the diffusion path.

13. (Previously presented) A data storage device with a moving data storage medium creating the internal fluid stream that is conditioned by the filter apparatus of claim 12.

14.-19. (Canceled)

20. (Original) A data storage device comprising:

a base deck;

a disc stack assembly secured to the base deck;

an actuator assembly adjacent the disc stack assembly and affixed to the base deck;

a top cover attached to the base deck enclosing the disc stack assembly and the

actuator assembly within a confined environment; and

means for filtering contaminants from the confined environment.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Previously presented) A method comprising:

rotating a data storage medium inside an enclosure to create an internal fluid

stream;

diverting a portion of the internal fluid stream through a recirculating filter; and fluidly mixing the internal fluid stream portion and an external fluid stream with a filter chamber disposed within the internal fluid stream immediately downstream of the recirculating filter.

23. (Previously presented) The method of claim 22 wherein the diverting step is characterized by providing a channel comprising a proximal end in fluid communication with the internal fluid stream and a distal end in fluid communication with a first area of an upstream side of the recirculating filter.

24. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23 wherein the mixing step is characterized by enclosing the recirculating filter with a second area on a downstream side of the recirculating filter in order to induce a pressure drop in the internal fluid stream across the recirculating filter.

25. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24 wherein the mixing step is characterized by filtering the external fluid stream.

26. (Previously presented) The method of claim 25 wherein the diverting and mixing steps are characterized by adsorbing contaminants from the fluid streams.

27. (Previously presented) The method of claim 22 comprising filtering a non-diverted portion of the internal fluid stream.